

REMARKS

In the Office Action dated November 27, 2006, the examiner entered a new rejection, rejecting all claims over Bennett et al. (U.S. Pub. 2002/0112014) in view of Gunluk (U.S. Pat. No. 5,768,509), Boltz (U.S. Pat. No. 6,311,055 B1) and Carrigan (U.S. Pub. 2005/0117602 A1).

According to the examiner, all claims are taught by Bennett in various combinations with the other references. Bennett is said to teach at least a first hardware device (Fig. 1A, SMSC 43a) having a machine readable storage (Par. 47, 13 – 16, SMSC's can store SMS messages) located in a first wireless communication network, and a second hardware device (Fig. 1A, SMSC 43a) having a machine readable storage (Par. 47, 13 – 16, SMSC's can store SMS messages) located in a second wireless communication network.

Because Bennett teaches a system having required elements that are not found in Applicants' claims, as amended, Applicants respectfully submit that the amendments made herein place this application in position for allowance.

In particular, and in contrast to Applicants' invention, Bennett teaches the sending, receipt, and storage of SMS messages only through a Short Message Service Center (SMSC). Bennett's invention is directed to "an efficient and improved technique which provides for the unification of different SMSCs, and associated message formats that may be used in different telecommunication systems. (Par. 0005, first sentence). This is further shown in Fig. 1A, which is said to show "a more detailed description of the components previously included in Fig. 1 [and] additionally includes detail regarding particular hardware that may be included in the network 10." (Par. 0034). All embodiments of Bennett show transmission of the SMS message through an SMSC, and Bennett does not teach or suggest a system that does not utilize an SMSC facility.

By contrast, Applicants' invention does not use an SMSC except as an optional "add on" feature. See, *e.g.*, Applicants' disclosure at p. 20, lines 12 – 15: "Another program that can be placed on the management server is the bridging program. The bridging program is not essential for the system disclosed herein. Instead, the bridging program is a program that can be added to the system to allow the system to exchange SMS messages with the SMS centers of wireless carriers."

Claims 10, 17 and 21, all of which previously claimed this "add on" feature of Applicants' invention, have now been cancelled. Claims 1, 23, 26, 29, 32 and 35 have been amended to add the limitation that SMS messages being processed by Applicants' invention do not pass through an SMSC (also referred to as a bridging program). Applicants' invention refers to "hardware devices," one of which is referred to as SMS devices which are "comprised of cellular telephones that are connected to the Internet via computers . . . [which] . . . is generally a PC style computer that is connected to the Internet using standard connection means." See Applicants' disclosure at p. 3, line 21 – p. 4, line 1. Another type of hardware device is referred to as a "gateway device" which "is similar to the SMS devices, but they are used only for messages originating from a cellular telephone that will be received on a cellular telephone. The gateway devices are programmed to provide the management server with information concerning the routing of the message, which is not provided by the SMS devices." See Applicants' disclosure, p. 4, lines 6 – 10.

Applicants' disclosure distinguishes between "gateways," whose operating algorithm is described at p. 12; SMS devices, whose routing algorithm is given at pages 19 - 20; and "bridging devices," whose operating algorithm is shown on pages 20 – 21.

Since Applicants' device does not require a bridging program that sends and receives SMS messages to and from SMSCs, and the remaining claims have been amended to eliminate any reference to SMSCs, Applicants believe that their application is now in position for allowance, and respectfully request the examiner to approve the amended claims.

Dated: January 29, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

s/ Michael C. Cesarano
Michael C. Cesarano
Reg. No. 31,817
Feldman Gale, P.A.
201 South Biscayne Boulevard
Suite 1920
Miami, FL 33131
Tel. 305-358-5001
Fax. 305-358-3309
mcesarano@feldmangale.com